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~~TOP SECRET~~TCS-10847-61-KH
27 December 1961Copy 11

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, United States Intelligence Board

SUBJECT: Evaluation of Coverage of KH Photography

1. Reference is made to memorandum from the Director, NPIC, to the Chairman, USIB, dated 14 November 1961, subject: "Criteria for Judging the Adequacy of KEYHOLE Photography".

2. Subject reference indicated (paragraph 6) that an interim project for evaluating KH coverage was in progress. A joint team has now completed its qualitative evaluation of each frame of photography with less than 50% cloud cover. A report and map overlays based on this evaluation will be completed shortly and will be available for distribution to the intelligence community.

3. Subject reference also stated (paragraph 6) that discussions were being held with Air Force representatives to provide a long term solution, utilizing an existing Air Force computer program with frame-by-frame qualitative inputs provided by joint teams from NPIC. The Air Force has now formally indicated that they concur with the qualitative definitions proposed by NPIC but desire to have the responsibility for qualitative evaluation for Air Force purposes assigned to the Aeronautical Chart and Information Center rather than to NPIC. Therefore, if NPIC is to continue to provide qualitative summaries there will be duplication of effort and potential discrepancies in statistics reported from two separate sources.

4. Guidance is requested from the USIB as to:

a. Whether a unilateral Air Force report is acceptable to the intelligence community as a basis for information on qualitative KH coverage, or,

b. Whether NPIC should establish a qualitative rating program utilizing its own resources.

ARTHUR C. LUNDAHL

Director

National Photographic Interpretation Center

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27 December 1961

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